

ROTARY HOME REVIEW

Spring 2014



LIVING THE DREAM: 5 YEARS IN OUR “NEW” HOME

Five years ago, through our highly successful, Building on the Dream campaign, the vision of so many dedicated Rotary Home and Foundation board members, staff, Rotarians and especially our Rotary Home families became a reality!

With the opening of the Rotary Home's Leitrim campus in January 2009, we have been able to offer a full range of respite care services to both children and young adults living with severe physical disabilities in a bright, spacious facility

with state-of-the-art equipment and beautiful grounds. The feedback from parents, children and young adults who have visited over the years has been excellent.

We've done quite a lot of growing in the past five years all the while maintaining our commitment to providing the highest quality of care to our families, and offering a loving, comfortable environment to the children and adults who visit and live with us.

THEN:

Rotary Home in 2008—30 Rochester Street

Square footage: 4,700

No. of beds: 12

Number of staff: 26

Nights of care provided: 4,296

Organization budget: \$1,283,181

NOW:

Rotary Home in 2014—Rochester + Leitrim

Square footage: 22,700

No. of beds: 29

No. of staff: 65

Nights of care provided: 8,520

Organization budget: \$3,347,504

One of the changes I've witnessed in the last 5 years is that we have all become that much older: staff, children, adults and the home itself. We have exposed all of the small imperfections of the house and watched the foundation truly settle. We have transformed from staff to friends, and friends to family. We have turned a beautiful house into a loving home. We have become familiar, reliable and welcoming. We have become The Ottawa Rotary Home and all it represents.—Chantal Ladouceur, Team Lead - Adult Services, Leitrim



6 years ago the new Ottawa Rotary Home was still a dream and families caring for young adults with disabilities had very few options for out of home respite care. Many of these families went years without a break from the challenging routine of caring for their adult son or daughter.

5 years ago we opened our **Leitrim campus!** Our 8-bed adult wing was ready to welcome back our graduates (the families whose children were over 21 and could no longer access our children’s programs).

4 years ago 16 families benefitted from adult respite care with 150 nights offered. The program was staffed by casual and part-time workers shifted over from our Children’s Respite and Adult Day Programs.

3 years ago we installed a **splash pad in the backyard** of the Leitrim campus giving the children and young adults who visit a wonderful summertime play area.

2 years ago we **celebrated our 30th anniversary** of providing out-of-home respite care to families in the Eastern Ontario region.

1 year ago we held out 10th annual Rotary Home Golf-A-Thon. Through our incredible supporters and golfers, **this fantastic event has raised over \$525,000 in support of our families and programs.**

TODAY, though funding for our Adult Respite Program is still unstable, we have **5 dedicated staff** for the program and **have offered over 2800 nights of care to families—939 nights to 50 families in the past year alone!**

Five years ago, we began offering overnight adult respite in our newly constructed Leitrim campus. The Rotary Home is one of very few options for respite care for adults living with disabilities in all of Eastern Ontario.

The transition from children’s to adult services, is “that abyss that all families talk about”, says Gina St. Amour, Rotary Home Executive Director. “Our goal is to help alleviate some of the pressure and hardships families face when navigating through the challenges of long wait lists and reduced services once their child turns 21.”

We are working hard to maximize the provincial funding we receive for this program and exploring new avenues to bring in funds for adult respite. For now, support from our donors and sponsors is critical to maintaining the program. **A huge heartfelt thank you to all our donors!**

Artist’s rendering of proposed sign at entrance to the Rotary Home on Rotary Way to be completed this summer.



Total project budget for “New Home” \$7,000,000

Revenue



Cost



Van Essen Brothers Score with the Senators

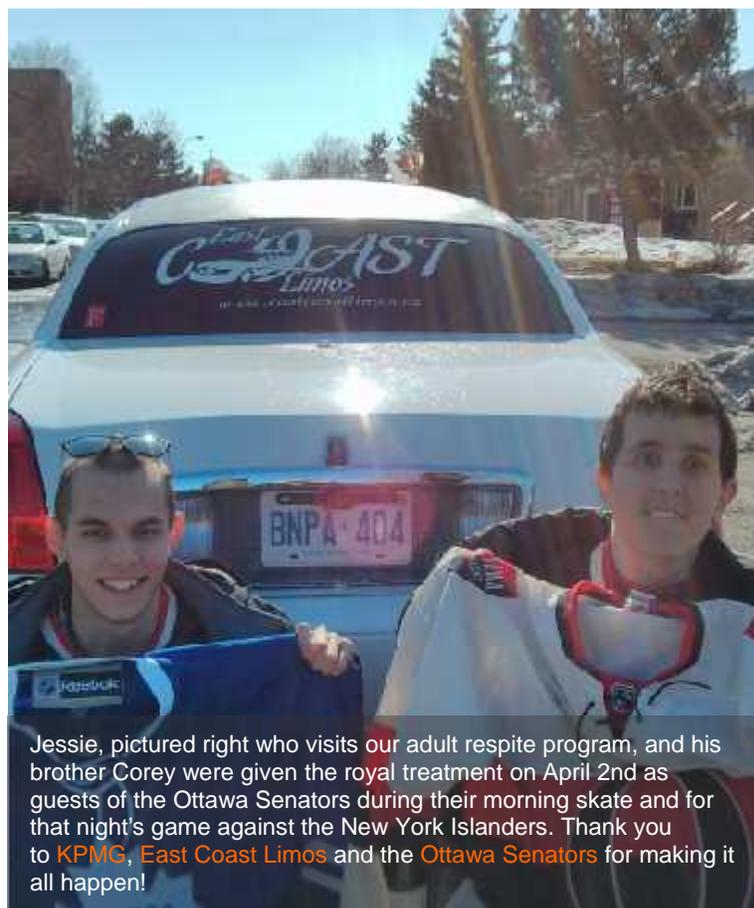
You may remember Corey and Jessie Van Essen from the series of articles about the brothers on CBC news in January. Jessie regularly visits the Rotary Home's adult respite program, giving Corey, his primary caregiver since their mother passed away last year, some much appreciated down time.

When funding for this program from the Ministry of Community and Social Services was running out last winter, Corey shared his story with the CBC.

Unfortunately, without ongoing funding for a base budget, the program that means so much to the Van Essen's is still in jeopardy.

We have funding for the program until the end of the summer and expect that with new resources from our Golf-A-Thon it will continue into the fall. However we are only running 4 beds of our 8 bed adult wing for respite (plus 1 on a residential basis) and the uncertainty of the funding situation is very difficult for families and staff.

Please help the families that rely on this important program! Donate to Adult Respite on our website rotaryhome.on.ca and click "Donate" or join us at one of the fun events below.



Jessie, pictured right who visits our adult respite program, and his brother Corey were given the royal treatment on April 2nd as guests of the Ottawa Senators during their morning skate and for that night's game against the New York Islanders. Thank you to KPMG, East Coast Limos and the Ottawa Senators for making it all happen!

Mark your calendar now for these upcoming events

Come fly with us for Fly Day! This year will be the 56th annual **Fly Day**. This event is organized by the Rotary Club of Ottawa and the Ottawa Flying Club with proceeds donated to Rotary Home. On **Saturday, September 27th** for just \$40 per person **you can enjoy a breathtaking flight over Ottawa!** Visit flyday.ca for all the details.

Not a golfer, but want to support Rotary Home? Join us for the Golf-A-Thon dinner on Monday, June 9th at Emerald Links. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at www.rotaryhomegolf.ca.

To find out how we can help with your fundraiser, please call or email Chloe at 613.822.5391 or chillier@orhfoundation.ca.

A poster for a pub night event. The text reads: "Pub Night in Support of The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation Friday, June 13, 2014 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM at Grace O'Malleys EAST COAST PUB & RESTAURANT 1151 Ogilvie Road, Ottawa". The logo for Grace O'Malleys is prominently displayed.

A poster for the 11th Annual Rotary Home Golf-A-Thon. The text reads: "11th Annual ROTARY HOME GOLF-A-THON Monday, June 9th 2014 at Emerald Links Golf & Country Club". Below the text are several small images showing people at the event. At the bottom, it says "ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT ADULT RESPITE CARE AT THE OTTAWA ROTARY HOME" and "COME ENJOY A FUN-FILLED DAY OF UNLIMITED GOLF, GREAT FOOD AND TONS OF AMAZING PRIZES!". It also includes "TO REGISTER OR MAKE A DONATION VISIT ROTARYHOMEGOLF.CA" and logos for sponsors: CGI, Welch, KPMG, domicile, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, ROTARY FOUNDATION, International Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Scribers.

Providing respite care to help keep families strong and together since 1982.



The Ottawa Rotary Home is part of Doors Open Ottawa!

We will be opening our doors to the general public on Saturday, June 7th from 10-4pm. Tours can be scheduled by calling 613.236.3200 or email SarahG@rotaryhome.on.ca.

Come check out our Snoezelen Room or tour our beautiful grounds. We hope to see you soon!



Rotary Home Registered Nurse, Patricia, and Wyatt enjoying the apple blossoms in our yard.

Centralized intake pilot project

At the Rotary Home, we understand the importance of working in partnership with families and other social service agencies in order to be as effective and helpful as possible. As a result, a Joint Advisory Group (JAG) was developed over a year ago that consist of parents and representatives from the three organizations that serve a similar clientele; Roger's House, Ottawa Children's Treatment Center and Rotary Home.

Last fall, the Ministry of Child and Youth Services proposed a review of respite services offered across the region to children who are Medically Fragile or Technologically Dependent.

The outcome was a new pilot project undertaken in partnership between the three agencies to

create one single point of entry for all families. The aim is to centralize and streamline the intake process across all three agencies and to ensure uniform eligibility requirements.

Through this collaboration we are working to reduce costs, provide easier and better access to services for families, become more effective and provide a higher quality of service.

Our families are always our first priority. We sought their input via the JAG working group and continue to reach out to new families with brochures promoting the pilot through other social service agencies and CHEO.



Camila and Cassie—BFFs!

A Special Friendship

The two of them met about two years ago at Rotary. They got along so well. But the most important aspect of this new friendship is that Cassie is Camila's first true and real friend. You see, Camila is an only child, shy and a bit of a wallflower, and does not make friends easily. The fact that she has no siblings or cousins her age has contributed, but the nature of her handicap is an additional factor. Well, and just to contradict the experts, Camila got close to Cassie and they had a wonderful time. They renewed acquaintances

this week and just picked it up after two long years, like it was yesterday. We are told by Rotary Home caregivers that the two are almost inseparable - well, the photo at right that was taken two years ago at Rotary Home shows Camila with Cassie's arm around her - a remarkable scene since Camila is affectionate, yes, but she usually has to initiate it, not the other way around. We are so happy, so grateful for this new and budding friendship. Kudos to this wonderful gathering point, the Rotary Home and its ever-nurturing staff.

- Eleonora Dufault, Camila's Mom

Thank you!

Every year caring and concerned community groups, local businesses and private foundations generously support respite care programs at the Rotary Home. We would like to acknowledge and thank the following:



Taggart Parkes Foundation - \$10,000



Stikeman Elliott LLP \$5,000—PROJECT GREEN



Rotary Club of Ottawa \$10,000

Rotary Club of South Nepean \$3,000

Rotary Club of West Ottawa \$2,500

Rotary Club of Ottawa South \$2,000



The McKay Cross Foundation—\$5,000

REALTORS Care® Foundation—\$2,545



Kiwi Kraze Kanata

2 Women, 1 Vision of a New Rotary Home

There are two women that the Leitrim campus would not exist without. Both dedicated time, resources and energy to ensuring the success of the new home project.

The late Ann Fellowes Crain, who passed away last December at age 103, was a tireless supporter of the Rotary Home. Her lead gift of \$500,000 to the Building on the Dream capital campaign set the stage for the success of the project early on. The children's wing of the Rotary Home Leitrim campus is dedicated Crain House in honour of Mrs. Ann Crain.

Patricia Murenbeeld joined the foundation board shortly before the beginning of the new home campaign. Shortly thereafter she was selected to head the capital campaign committee as one of three co-chairs (along with Rob Nesbitt, and Suzanne Halpenny, who is Mrs. Crain's daughter).

Her dedication and commitment to the project was unparalleled and it is no stretch to say that the new home would not exist without all she did to ensure the dream became a reality. Patricia will be stepping down from the foundation board of directors this summer. We wish her all the best and thank her for her passion, commitment and guidance.

Mrs. Crain and Ms. Murenbeeld's enthusiasm for Rotary Home influenced politicians, business leaders and hundreds of donors to support the project. The "new" Home is a reality because of them.



Ann Crain, pictured right with the late Brett Jeffries, Madeleine Meilleur, Jim Watson, Phil McNeely and Dalton McGuinty at the official opening of the Rotary Home Leitrim Campus.

Kayla's Top 10: Why Rotary Home is so Important

I have been coming to The Ottawa Rotary Home since I was 10 years old. I love and appreciate both the staff and the service that Rotary Home provides. During the time I have spent at The Ottawa Rotary Home, it has become just that, my home. It is a place I feel loved, accepted and seen as an equal - as a person, not a disability. I have come up with a list. "Kayla's Top Ten" if you will, to show why this place, my home is so important and why once and for all we should find a way to keep my home open, permanently!

1. This is my **Family**
2. The Ottawa Rotary Home is a home away from home and a wonderful place that gives me an opportunity to see my friends - staff and clients alike.
3. Without secure funding, I never know when my next visit will come. This means my family isn't able to book trips or able to benefit from the respite services.
4. **This place is my home** and I see many of the staff as I see my own family members. With no secure future many staff have had to look elsewhere for jobs. Almost every visit back, I hear of a **staff, one of my family members had to leave. This breaks my heart.**
5. The Ottawa Rotary Home is a place where I am **seen as an equal.**
6. The relationships developed here are unique; it is a different kind of trust. I am able to express myself to staff on a more personal level.
7. I am getting older and my needs are changing. Respite is more important now than ever.
8. **My parents are not getting any younger!**
9. It's fun.
10. I would like the same treatment as the children. It is unfair that adults receive far less. **I would like to remind everyone that we are the children just grown up. Don't forget about us!** We are of value, we matter and we, as I am proving here, have a voice and want to be heard.



Adult Day Program counsellor, Krista (left), and Kayla at the Rotary Home this spring.

What sets Rotary Home apart? Well, lots of things, but one of them is definitely our dedicated, professional and caring staff.

At the Rotary Home we are committed to being a leader in the development services field and to offering the highest level of care to our clients. One of the things that set us apart is our dedicated, professional and caring staff.



Front line staff with Developmental Services Worker diploma (DSW)

56%

Staff turnover rate

17%

Based on a recent survey of 7 Ottawa area developmental services organizations. Our staff turnover rate is half the average rate of the organizations surveyed and the number of our staff who hold a DSW diploma is more than twice the average.

FAMILY SATISFACTION SURVEY -- HIGHLIGHTS --



Would recommend the Ottawa Rotary Home to other families



Find the Ottawa Rotary Home a welcoming and friendly place



The Ottawa Rotary Home gives me the opportunity to rest and rejuvenate



My child or young adult enjoys going to the Ottawa Rotary Home

STAFF MILESTONES

Many of our fantastic staff have been with the Rotary Home for years. We would like to recognize and thank the following staff members for their long term commitment to the Rotary Home and to our families:

5 year awards: Amanda Michalyszyn, Karen Sheedy, Sara Samimi, Heather Cauley, Erin Wollinger.

10 year awards: Lauri Cox, Sarah Gilkes, Gina St. Amour

Congratulations to all of our staff who welcomed new additions to their families this year! Caroline Joly, Cheryl O'Connor, Jennifer Eamon, and Amanda Michalyszyn all had babies in the past year. Josh Grey also welcomed his baby daughter, Charlie, on February 26th.

Congratulations as well to Melanie Waters (nee Gallant) who married Matt on April 10th, 2014.



"For me, it is everything about The Ottawa Rotary Home that I love. It is the clients we care for, the staff, management, and the wonderful atmosphere of both our homes. Our mission statement to "improve the quality of life of caregivers and individuals with disabilities through a family and person-centered approach that is responsive to individual needs and offered in a dynamic and flexible way", is what keeps me motivated and loving my job."

Crystal Eisler, Rotary Home RN

VISIT ROTARYHOMEGOLF.CA

REGISTER NOW!

THE OTTAWA ROTARY HOME
GOLF-A-THON
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014

Stay connected!

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